

# St. Patrick Parish IN FOCUS



[www.stpaturbana.org](http://www.stpaturbana.org)

December 2025

## A down-to-earth birth

The familiar stories of the events around the birth of Jesus appear in the gospels of Matthew and Luke. The writers tell the stories in a way that shows how utterly amazing his birth was. They show that he fulfills all the ancient prophecies. They tell how his way was prepared by messages from angels. They place him firmly in the history of the Jewish people, whom God had long been preparing to receive him.

They foreshadow his role as savior, as one who will rule justly, and as one coming for all of humanity, rich and poor, Jew and gentile.

And yet, there is much in their stories that is very down to earth and very much in our experience. The Son of God was born into a real family, in real time and a real place, among real flesh and blood people. How do you encounter these realities in your life? And how does our annual remembrance of Jesus' story affect the way that you meet them?

Since Mary and Joseph had to travel for the census, surely Bethlehem was filled with cousins and aunts and uncles. And yet none of their kindred would take them in. Who do you know who is alienated from family? Is there anything you can do to open doors and help make



others welcome?

As new parents, Mary and Joseph had no idea what it would mean to care for this child, especially this child, the Son of God. We can hope that they were surrounded by other parents who showed them what to do (and very probably there were some who told them they were doing everything all wrong!). Who do you know who has a new child? Can you offer a bit of respite, support, and friendship?

Do you know someone who has a special-needs child? What can you do to help?

Mary and Joseph weren't exactly poor. Joseph had a trade but probably had little money to spare. They could plan for the trip to Bethlehem, but what about their flight into Egypt? Joseph surely didn't pack all his tools to take with them. Who do you know who has sudden, unexpected expenses? Who do you know who helps those who are suffering the loss of a job or medical debt? What can you do to help?

And Egypt. A journey of several hundred miles. A place where they did not know the language. A place of strange foods, customs, and laws. Who do you know that is far from

see **Down-to-earth birth** on page 3

## 'Tis the season for cookies and crafts!

As the Christmas holidays draw near once again, the Women of St. Patrick will be working hard to satisfy those cravings for sweet treats and provide a variety of reasonably priced craft items on Sunday, December 14, from 8 until 11:30 a.m.

The holiday sale has evolved over the years, with the earliest records going back to 2010. Before 2010, several holiday craft events took place, but WSP reorganized in 2009 and instituted the current annual event. In 2010, the event was a cookie and basket sale, and many beautiful gift baskets were offered for sale. These baskets were designed and created by Ceil Weir and Leslie Risatti, who



worked for many days in Ceil's basement and brought the baskets to the church for the sale. When Ceil moved from Urbana a couple of years ago, Leslie created a smaller selection of baskets, but finding space to work became too difficult, and the baskets were last offered in 2023. They were beautiful works of art and are missed, but we have adapted.

Meanwhile, the sale has been expanded to offer a variety of hand-

see **Cookies and crafts** on page 7

## The show was a hit!

What a wonderful evening November 8 was! The word had spread throughout Champaign-Urbana: Ladies Knight Out is the event to see whether you are a St. Patrick's parishioner or not. This year St. Brigid Hall was filled with 15 dinner tables, each seating eight, and the hall was



jammed almost all the way to the stage.

The long buffet table was at first set with appetizers of platters of salami and cheese and huge bowls of shelled shrimp accompanied by two sauces. After more conversation and wine, the buffet was set for dinner. The shrimp bowl was replenished, there was a tossed salad and a pasta salad, buns, and two hot entrees of grilled chicken breast strips and tender beef tips perfectly seasoned, as well as a medley of cooked vegetables. Dessert? Those cute little squares of cheese cake. Coffee was served by the waiter Knights.

Afterward, while the tables were being deconstructed and chairs moved to the stage area, Steve Beckett insisted that all the kitchen Knights come up on the stage to be introduced.

Right on time at 7:00 p.m., Terry Bosley approached the microphone as emcee to tell us about how The Cath'lic Boys always seem to get into trouble each year. This time they

were going on retreat to the Redwood Forest in California – but they didn't get any farther than Chicago's O'Hare Airport.

For the first number, all eight of the Cath'lic Boys came on stage, wearing tuxedo tee-shirts and top hats, and sang "One" from "A Cho-



rus Line." Sounding quite professional were Jim Mayer, Terry Bosley, Gary Bosley, Gary Wszalek, David Madden, Chad Beckett, John Minor, and Tom Kacich.

Then all changed to Hawaiian shirts and sang "California Dreaming," led by Gary Bosley, after they found out that their airplane was unavailable. As the Boys sat glumly on a curb, they got a telegram from Pope Leo XIV asking them to perform for him. Tom Kacich portrayed the pope, appropriately dressed in white. The Boys, dressed as Blues Brothers, sang "Sweet Home Chicago."

The Boys finally got to a forest, but it was Penfield Woods. They sang "Isn't She Lovely" as Gary Wszalek waltzed out in a beautiful dress and wig. (It wouldn't be a Ladies Knight Out if Gary didn't wear a dress in one of the scenes!) The Cath'lic Boys' retreat was over, and they missed their loved ones so they sailed down the Middle Fork River singing "The Sloop John B" on their way to Danville. However, since they had no money, they hiked home singing "Country Road Take Me Home...Almost Heaven, West Urbana."

The Cath'lic Boys had great backup from Joe Rasmussen on drums, Michael Felty on keyboard,

and Sam Reese on bass ukulele. Every Lady left happy because of the great entertainment. How do they do it? – the Cath'lic Boys get better every year!

## International Festival, event extraordinaire!

Our parish's annual International Festival was a huge success – evident as soon as you tried to find an empty parking place in the church parking lot or on the side streets.



The wonderful weather co-operated, too, by being warm, sunny, and with no wind.

This was the first year that the festival was held in both St. Brigid Hall and outside in the fenced-in front and side yards. The children loved it outside. They could run and squeal to their heart's content, and there were games to play and faces to be painted. The new playhouse attracted many.



Our children prepared for this international festival, "Communion of Saints – One Body in Christ," by designing and coloring paper robes for their favorite saint. Did you see their enrobed saints hanging from the ceiling in the office lobby? Of course, everyone comes to the

festivals for the foods. All of the foods were absolutely delicious – if you didn't limit your intake, you quickly became stuffed, with many a country's foods yet to taste. Next year, you'll want to try to remember to start with a different country!

There were two stages for entertainment this year, one in St. Brigid Hall and one outside on the lawn. It began outside with Old Time Music from Laura Sleade on the fiddle and Ed Hawkes on the guitar. Then inside to watch four señoritas dance and twirl their skirts to Mexican music. They were followed by Bao Bui and Sofia Dunets dancing



a sophisticated Argentinian tango. The Mariachi Tigres de Urbana played their rousing Mexican music both outside on the lawn and inside on the stage.

Everyone's favorite, the Congolese Choir, lifted spirits with their exuberant singing and drumming. The women were beautiful in their colorfully patterned long dresses, and some very young children occasionally joined their parents on stage, moving with the tempo.

The beat of this festival will pleasantly linger until next year's fair, thanks to the hard work done behind the scenes to put it all together. Thank you, everyone!

## Down-to-earth birth from page 1

home? Who do you know who would like to practice their English skills? Who do you know that is feeling very alone? What can you do to help?

Meanwhile, back in Bethlehem, Herod is killing all the young boys in an attempt to kill a future rival. Who do you know who has fled from terror? What places in the world are such atrocities happening today? What can you do to help?

We can hope that Joseph, Mary, and Jesus found help, especially during those first few turbulent years. We can hope that we would have helped, if we had been there. But we can certainly help people today who are vulnerable in the ways that they were. The joy and hope that we find in the newborn Son of God can move us to action. The care of the Father will see that we have what we need to act. The wisdom of the Spirit will show us how to meet their down-to-earth needs.

## Calling all moms

Are you a busy mom who likes to read? Take a break and deepen your faith at the same time. The St. Pat's Moms' Book Club meets every other week for discussion, guided by Fr. Anthony. This semester, the club is reading Spiritual Warfare and the Discernment of Spirits by Daniel Burke. All moms are welcome to join! Contact Anna Kinskey for additional information (Anna.Kinskey@gmail.com or phone or text 309-530-9210).

Clothe yourselves with heartfelt mercy, with kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another; forgive whatever grievances you have against one another. Forgive as the Lord has forgiven you.

—Col. 3:12-13



## Q: Who prepares the Prayers of the Faithful for our weekend Masses?

**A:** The Prayers of the Faithful, more properly named the Prayer of the Faithful, has been part of the Mass since the early Church, believed to have originated in Jewish synagogue prayer and evolving over time to become a significant part of the liturgy. It was structured to invite the faithful to pray on specific topics, concluding with a spoken prayer to God.

Around the sixth century it disappeared from the Roman liturgy but was restored during Vatican II, encouraging the faithful to pray for the needs of the world. It is now included in all Masses celebrated with a congregation, offering petitions for the Church, civil authorities, the sick, and the world.

What do we pray for? Mary Tate, who prepares the Prayer of the Faithful for our weekend liturgies today, offers this explanation of how she goes about developing it: "I begin with a book called Prayers of the Faithful from Catholic Book Publishing Corp. That's the red book that

you see lectors carrying to the ambo when it's time to offer the Prayers of the Faithful. It has prayers that follow the liturgical calendar in the cycles of years A, B, and C.

"I usually start with a couple of intentions from the book – it's nice to know that we are offering the same prayers as Catholics around the world. Next, I include prayers that are timely, such as prayers for farmers at harvest, or prayers for relief from war, hunger, or natural disasters when it seems especially fitting. Then I include prayers related to events specific to our parish, such as weddings, baptisms, and other sacraments. Finally, we offer prayers for those recently deceased, personal intentions written in the Book of Intentions, and finally a prayer for whom the Mass is offered.

"I rely on the rest of the staff to help me keep up to date on who needs prayers!"

So there you have it: Mary Tate actually prepares the Prayer(s) of the Faithful, she draws on the U.S. Bishops' publication as her primary resource, and she turns to the happenings and needs of our parish to conclude this communal prayer.

Lord, hear our prayer.

## News from the Respect Life ministry by Megan Logsdon

Many of the arguments I hear from those who believe it is a woman's choice to terminate a pregnancy suggest that those in the pro-life movement care about the baby only before the baby's birth. And also that Planned Parenthood (PP) does so much for our community, other than discouraging abortions. I want to highlight an organization that offers what PP offers and even more – the Pregnancy Resource Center (PRC), which recently celebrated 40 years of service, 37 right here in our C-U community.

This organization offers pregnancy testing, ultrasound scanning, STI/STD testing, mentoring, education, post-abortive support, perinatal grief support, adoption support – all free of charge to their clients, and with

their own medical staff.

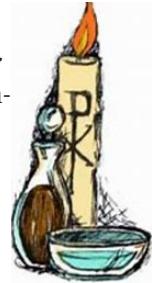
On Monday, October 20, they held their annual banquet, which raises money for the organization. Those in attendance heard about the services listed above and many others that PRC offers, including residential programs. They cannot do what they do without our financial support. Here is a link to their website if you're interested in learning more: [www.pregnancyresourcecenter.org/locations/champaign/](http://www.pregnancyresourcecenter.org/locations/champaign/).



Deadline for submission of articles and news items for the next issue of *In Focus* (January) is **Sunday, December 7**.

## Baptisms at St. Patrick's

We welcome into our faith community **Elizabeth Argle Dean**, daughter of Matthew and Angela Dean, who was baptized October 12, and **Mark Alexander John Metz**, son of Larissa and Ryan Metz, who was baptized October 26.



We celebrate their Baptism with **Elizabeth** and **Mark**, because this is the sacrament by which they (and we) became adopted sons and daughters of God!

Baptism preparation class is offered at St. Patrick's at 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month, or by appointment. Parents, godparents, and all are welcome.

## Prepare for Christmas with an Advent retreat

The Sisters of the Holy Heart of Mary and the Mercy Affiliates group will host a one-day in-person Advent Retreat at St. Patrick's on Saturday, December 6, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in St. Brigid Hall.

The theme of the retreat is "Awake, O Sleeper." The format will be that of a silent retreat, using images, scripture, and questions for reflection. To deepen the retreat experience, the main theme will be presented in two different stages of awakening: "Open your eyes; awaken from sleep; what is God calling you to?" and "How am I going to respond to this call to action? Journey, pilgrimage."

You will want to participate in this in-person retreat to prepare yourself for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. The retreat will cost \$40. A simple lunch will be served. Registration is limited.

Here's the link for online registration: <https://www.sscm-usa.org/Workshops-Retreats.html#Advent2025>.

## St. Cecilia, patron of musicians

St. Cecilia, patron saint of musicians, is celebrated around the world on her feast day, November 22. She is commemorated as a virgin and martyr of early Rome and died in approximately 230 A.D., during the reign of Alexander Severus and the papacy of Urban I.

St. Patrick's Adult Choir prays to St. Cecilia after many rehearsals for inspiration and guidance. In part, the prayer states:

"We lift our hearts in joyous song to honor Him this way.  
And while we sing, remembering,  
To sing is to doubly pray. . . .  
We ask dear saint, to help us be united close to Christ!"

St. Cecilia's connection to music comes from the legend that begins when she married a young man named Valerian. She was

a devout young virgin, and she was said to have sung in her heart to God during the wedding ceremony. Before the consummation of her marriage, she told her husband she had taken a vow of virginity and was protected by an angel. Valerian wished to see the angel, and she tasked him with journeying on the Appian

Way of Rome to be baptized by Pope Urban. He did so and returned to see the angel.

Valerian's brother, Tibertius, heard of the angel and was also baptized. Together the brothers went about Rome burying the many martyred saints each day until they were arrested and executed for failure to worship the Roman gods.

Cecilia went about Rome preaching and converting many people to Christianity. Eventually, she too was arrested and condemned to a brutal death. The first attempt to execute her was to place her in a stifling hot bathhouse to suffocate her, but she survived unscathed. The second attempt was to behead her, but the executioner could not completely sever her head, so she survived for three days, preaching and praying while many people visited her and collected her blood. After her death she was buried by Pope Urban.

An early church dedicated to her was built around the fifth century. In 1599, the Church of St. Cecilia in Trastevere, a region of Rome, was rebuilt, and she is buried there. She is often pictured in works of art with an organ or organ pipes.



## At last – a monthly Mass at Brookdale

After COVID 19, in June 2022 St. Patrick's Pastoral Care Ministry resumed providing residents at University Rehab with a 2:00 Mass on 2nd Thursdays and a 2:00 Communion service on 4th Thursdays. St. Patrick's Pastoral Ministry volunteers included Frank Rosser, Sandy Anderson, Susie McArthur, and Diane Wilhelm.

During the same time period, Deacon Cliff and Dorothy Maduzia were offering a Thursday 2:00 Communion service at Brookdale.

In May 2023 University Rehab began moving their residents to other facilities. When University Rehab closed, St. Patrick's Pastoral Team (Frank, Sandy, Susie, and Diane) decided to transfer their Thursday ministry to assisting Deacon Cliff and Dorothy at Brookdale. The two teams would alternate offering the Thursday 2:00 Brookdale Communion Service twice a month.

This alternating Brookdale schedule continues today. For the past two years, St. Patrick's has discussed a potential monthly Mass at Brookdale, but it was only with Fr. John Pham's arrival that a monthly Mass seemed feasible.

On September 11, Fr. Anthony celebrated 2:00 Mass in the Chapel/Theatre Room at Brookdale. With plans for a monthly Brookdale Mass, Fr. John celebrated Mass on October 9, this time in Brookdale's Library on the second floor, where it is a little less noisy. It also seemed a perfect location for Mass: the library is located across from Fr. Remm's former room, and he often offered a Sunday evening Mass in the Library. Fr. Remm was surely smiling down on his fellow Brookdale residents during the Mass on October 9!

The plan is to offer a 2:00 Mass on second Thursdays, with help from Frank, Sandy, Susie, and Diane, who offer set-up and joyful music!

### Changes to 4:00 p.m. Christmas Mass!

If you have ever attended an early Christmas Eve Mass at St. Patrick, then you know it is well-attended to the point where the church is bursting at the seams! This year, to help with overflow, there will be two 4:00 p.m. Masses on Christmas Eve. One will take place in the church, the other will be in St. Brigid Hall. There will also be Mass at 6:00 p.m. in the church, as well as at 10:00 a.m. on Christmas Day in the church. The Christmas church Masses will be like a Sunday Mass with a choir and instrumentalists. The Mass in the hall is being referred to as a Candlelight Mass: a simple Mass with just the basics.

So as you make your plans for which Christmas Mass you would like to attend, be mindful of locations. To sit in the church for 4:00 p.m. Mass, you will need to arrive probably 25-30 minutes before Mass begins. Come early and enjoy the singing of the carols, the sounds of the choir and instruments. Ushers will help guide overflow.

# Jubilee 2025: A Pilgrimage of Hope

By Stan Yanchus

For Christians a pilgrimage is both a physical and spiritual journey on a common path with a clear goal

St. Peter's in the Vatican, St. John Lateran, St. Mary Major, and St. Paul's Outside the Walls, the Jubilee celebrates numerous groups and works of the Church. During our



*Pilgrimage group*

of bringing one's existence closer to the love of Christ. Stimulated by spiritual guidance and relationships developed and enhanced by walking side by side with others, pilgrims share prayer, worship, discovery, and enlightenment. The pilgrimage experience becomes an opportunity for deeper conversion and fuller surrender to the Lord's will.

St. Patrick's parishioners Pat Justice and Sharon and Stan Yanchus experienced the pilgrimage of a lifetime on the Pilgrimage to Italy, led by our Bishop Lou Tylka. Our pilgrimage celebrated both the Church's Holy Year, the 2025 Jubilee of Hope, and the Diocese of Peoria's 150th anniversary.

Multitudes of pilgrims from all parts of the world have been coming to Italy in 2025, especially to Rome, to celebrate this great religious event in our Catholic tradition, which occurs every 25 years. The first Holy Year was celebrated in 1300 and traces its origins to the Old Testament. The Jubilee is full of joy and offers pilgrims the opportunity to receive plenary indulgences from penitence, from confession, from communion, and from prayer.

Beginning with the Opening of the Holy Doors at the Basilicas of

pilgrimage, from October 5 through October 15, Jubilee celebrations were held for Migrants, for Missions, for the Consecrated Life, and for Marian Spirituality.

Our diocesan 150th anniversary pilgrimage family included Bishop Lou, three priests, one deacon, and 82 other pilgrims from 32 different communities over seven states across the country. It was by far the largest pilgrimage group Bishop Lou has ever led, and the largest pilgrimage family that any of us had experienced.

Multitudes of people are common during a Jubilee year, and Rome alone was expecting almost 35 million visitors this year, almost double the number in recent years. Fortunately, we began our pilgrimage further north, in Assisi, Sienna, and Orvieto, which offered us opportunities for extended contemplation and a much less hectic pace than we encountered later in Rome.

On Day 2 in Assisi, Bishop Lou celebrated Mass at St. Damiano Monastery in the church where the Lord spoke to St. Francis and told him to rebuild his Church. Joy and the powerful presence of the Lord filled the small chapel. This was the first of eight Masses that Bishop Lou

would celebrate for us in the next nine days. He was assisted by Fr. Deus Byabato, Fr. Jack Swoik, Fr. Keith Walder, and Deacon William Scott. As Pat Justice said, "What an incredible blessing to have your Bishop celebrating Mass every day in some of the holiest places in our Church."

Other Masses in Assisi were celebrated in St. Francis Basilica, (where St. Francis' crypt is located) and in the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels (built around the chapel where St. Francis prayed, did penance, and died). Holiness and peace radiated at Mass and everywhere we were blessed to pray.

Praying before the crypt of St. Francis and later at the crypts of St. Clare, St. Catherine, St. Paul, and numerous other



*From the left: Stan Yanchus, Sharon Yanchus, Bishop Lou, Pat Justice*

saints (as well as the humble crypt of Pope Francis), we basked in the warm glow of those who totally embraced Jesus and whose witness has inspired centuries of faithful disciples. The Commune of Saints speaks clearly at these moments. Especially moving was to see so many younger people, including priests and religious sisters, praying fervently and touching crucifixes and rosaries to the crypt of St. Carlo Acutis at the church of Santa Maria Maggiore.

On Day 5 we journeyed to Siena, home of St. Catherine, where Bishop

see **Jubilee 2025** on page 8

## Parish Council News

At their October meeting, Parish Council members reflected on the marvelous participation in the parish's recent annual International Festival.

They then turned to the parish's 125th anniversary celebration, currently planned for July 5. The ad hoc committee for this event expects to contact groups that have had their start in the last 25 years, and interview some of the parishioners who were notably involved in the church expansion.

The type of celebration, formal or picnic-style, is dependent on Bishop Tylka's ability to attend, which had not yet been confirmed. The date of the celebration came under discussion. Some members, concerned that the celebration might conflict with Fourth of July activities, asked whether it might be better to have the parish's anniversary celebration the week before or after the Fourth of July. The ad hoc committee hopes to confirm their plans by the first of the year.

Despite the several ways the Time and Talent campaign was promoted this fall, which drew about 60 responses (some of which were already members), several ministries are still in need of new participants. Perhaps another Time and Talent campaign in the spring?

Fr. Anthony and his staff have been devoting 6-10 hours a week working with OCIA candidates this year, with about 24 people from St. Patrick's inquiring about the Catholic faith. The OCIA process is sponsored by St. Matthew's this year, since St. Patrick's still lacks a volunteer coordinator. Because each parish has a slightly different approach



in working with the candidates, our goal is to find a volunteer coordinator that will enable St. Patrick's to resume the OCIA process next year.

With a focus on evangelical outreach, it was noted that members of Urbana High School's Mariachi Band, which performed at the International Festival, expressed a need (desire) for uniforms. Council members discussed methods to assist the band raise funds for uniforms, but reserved further discussion for a future meeting.

Our Parish Council is one of those groups that hoped for new members who would fill its vacancies. Can you be one of those "never too late to volunteer" parishioners who will serve the parish and our pastor with your talents and time? You would find it a joy as well as a blessing so to serve!

### Vocation Prayer

Loving Father, when I was a child, someone asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up, and I answered "I want to be a saint." I still want to be a saint, but I do realize I have some living and growing-up still to do. I look to you for help in knowing how I can become the person you want me to be. I rely on you, Father – help me to discern the path I am to follow and to be faithful in this journey of my lifetime as I try to serve you in the people I meet. I do still want to be a saint, because it means I will always be your child, loving and being loved forever.

## Cookies and crafts from page 1

made craft items created by the talented hands of many parishioners. Wreaths, knitted or crocheted items, embroidered towels, hand-made cards, all kinds of ornaments – the creative offerings are limitless! The artists donate these items and assist with pricing. If they wish, items that do not sell may be returned or kept by WSP for the next sale.

The baked goods reflect the wide range of tastes and ethnic heritages of the creators, and they always sell out! If anything at all is left, it is given to the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry guests the following week. Favorite items include fudge, biscotti, pizzelle, kolachky, and cookies of all types. Individual items sell quickly. Breads, cakes, and pies tend to sell more slowly. Several talented men of the parish have also baked for this sale, so donations are not limited to baking women!

Details of the schedule for donations will be publicized elsewhere through flyers, notices in the bulletin, and emails to the Women of St. Patrick. Some people arrange their items on plates or in containers to be sold together, while others come in storage containers and are arranged on large trays. Anyone who donates is asked to label their items for return, items to be sold as arranged, and items with distinct food information. There are table sections for gluten-free and sugar-free items, and those containing nuts.

Questions? Please contact Roxanne Munch (roxanne\_munch@sbcglobal.net); she will be delighted to help.

Be sure to mark your calendars if you haven't already done so – you won't want to miss this special event, with its promise of Christmas soon to follow!

There comes a time in prayer when we find that it is possible to pray without words in a silent, wordless communion. We find we are no longer strangers with God and need not look for words to fill the period of praying, but be quite relaxed in silence, able to be still in communion with the Lord. Intimacy with God is his gift to every baptized person.

—John Dalrymple

## Jubilee 2025

### from page 6

Lou celebrated Mass at the Basilica of St. Dominic in front of a high wall of stunning stained glass brilliantly lit by the sun. After Mass we explored the Cathedral, the Cathedral Museum, and the Sanctuary of St. Catherine, where we marveled at how this pious laywoman became a Doctor of the Church. Returning to Assisi through the iconic rolling hills and cypress trees, we again contemplated the presence of the Holy Spirit guiding our saints. Our travels treated us both to nature's beauty and time for group prayer including the rosary.

On Day 6 we traveled to Orvieto, a small city ("halfway between the earth and sky") that sits on a plateau high above the plains below. The Cathedral of Orvieto still shelters the host and the bloodstained corporal from the Eucharistic miracle of Bolsena-Orvieto in 1263. This miracle played a pivotal role in the establishment of the Solemnity of

Corpus Christi, (the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ). As Bishop Lou celebrated Mass in the home of this miraculous host, awareness that throughout history God has worked Eucharistic miracles – like the one at Orvieto and many others across the centuries – not to dazzle us, but to affirm the truth of his presence and to strengthen our faith. Christ truly dwells among his people, hidden in the Host, carried in the monstrance, and received into our very bodies in Holy Communion.

*There is not space in an article like this even to begin to portray the abundance of blessings poured out on us during this pilgrimage, so we have only shared some special moments from the first half of our pilgrimage here. We will bring you the stories and blessings of Rome during Jubilee, especially going through the Holy Doors, our up-close Mass with Pope Leo, our personal time with Cardinal Harvey, and our wonderful times with Bishop Lou and his four older sisters in a future issue of In Focus.*



**St. Patrick's Parish In Focus** is published on the last weekend of the month in Urbana, Illinois. News items and information may be submitted by the first weekend of the month for an upcoming issue. Materials must include the name and telephone number of the person submitting them.

Please send news items to [info-cusstpats@gmail.com](mailto:info-cusstpats@gmail.com). You may also send them to any Communications Committee member (listed below). All submissions are subject to review and/or editing by the committee and staff. Bylines are generally omitted.

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## Quick fixin's from the kitchen of . . .

### Sharon Rettig

#### Strawberry Glaze Pie

1 qt strawberries, washed and drained  
 Water  
 3 T cornstarch  
 1 c sugar  
 1 baked pie shell

Heat oven or toaster oven to 325 F. Line a small rimmed baking sheet. Mash enough berries to fill 1/2 cup, then fill the cup with water. Combine cornstarch and sugar in a saucepan, and add mashed berries and water. Cook until thick and clear. Cool slightly, and add the remaining whole berries. (Large berries may be cut to allow glaze to penetrate.) Pour into pie shell and chill. Serve with whipped cream.



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*Do you have a favorite quick and easy recipe to share? Maybe something your family and friends really enjoy? Please send it to Mary Lou Menches ([mmenches@illinois.edu](mailto:mmenches@illinois.edu)) — our readers are always looking for that great addition to a meal!*